



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 7 October 2008

Current Nationwide
Threat Level is



[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)
<http://www.dhs.gov/>

- Reuters reports that the U.S. Air Force on Friday said it would immediately inspect and repair about 130 A-10 attack aircraft due to fatigue-related cracks in their wings, saying the move illustrated the advancing age of its fleet. (See item [11](#))
- According to the Associated Press, at least a half million gallons of crude oil was spilled into the Gulf of Mexico and the marshes, bayous, and bays of Louisiana and Texas due to Hurricane Ike. At least 448 releases of oil, gasoline, and dozens of other substances into the water and onto the ground in Louisiana and Texas were reported. (See item [20](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Fast Jump

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical](#); [Nuclear Reactors](#); [Materials and Waste](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#); [Dams](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation](#); [Postal and Shipping](#); [Information Technology](#); [Communications](#); [Commercial Facilities](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture and Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health and Healthcare](#)

Federal and State: [Government Facilities](#); [Emergency Services](#); [National Monuments and Icons](#)

Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: **Physical**: ELEVATED, **Cyber**: ELEVATED

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *October 3, Canwest News Service* – (National) **First Nations, Enbridge reach deal over pipeline.** On Friday afternoon, chiefs from Treaty 4 and Treaty 6 First Nations and representatives from Enbridge Pipelines Inc. participated in a pipe ceremony near Regina, Canada to formalize what the chiefs are describing as “a new alliance.” The two groups as well as representatives from the provincial and federal governments met Thursday to settle a dispute over the construction of the pipeline through traditional territory. When finished, the 988-mile oil pipeline known as the “Alberta Clipper” will carry hundreds of thousand of barrels of oil a day from western Canada to major American cities such as Chicago. Earlier last week, the First Nations chiefs launched

peaceful protests against Enbridge and government for not properly consulting them. Teepees were erected east of Regina along the Trans-Canada Highway and west of Saskatoon near the community of Luseland where workers have started constructing the pipeline. While Enbridge has maintained it has consulted with First Nations people and has provided them skills training, jobs, and contracts, it has now agreed to increase those numbers.

Source: <http://www.canada.com/reginaleaderpost/news/story.html?id=004cc263-1a98-4184-b75b-c890cd5f3971>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Chemical Industry Sector

2. *October 6, Industry Week* – (International) **Chemical maker Nalco settles export violations charges.** Chemical manufacturer Nalco Co. has agreed to pay a \$115,000 civil penalty to settle allegations that it made 13 unlicensed exports in violation of the Export Administration Regulations, the Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) announced on October 3. The allegations involved exports of items containing triethanolamine (TEA) to Angola, the Bahamas and the Dominican Republic between April 2003 and September 2006. According to the BIS, TEA can be used as a precursor for toxic agents and is controlled for chemical/biological, anti-terrorism and chemical weapons reasons. Nalco voluntarily self-disclosed the exports to the BIS.
Source: <http://www.industryweek.com/ReadArticle.aspx?ArticleID=17459>
3. *October 6, Laboratory Talk* – (National) **Stratophase leads production of chemical sensor.** A consortium led by Stratophase and supported by a Technology Strategy Board grant has produced a low-cost biological and chemical sensor system. Applications for the optical technology include medical diagnostics, food and beverage manufacturing, industrial process control and biohazard sensing for the medical/pharmaceutical and bioterrorism security sectors. The GBP 565,000 project has developed a multi-wavelength sensing system for the detection of biological binding to coated surfaces and the measurement of liquid properties. Stratophase technology was used as the basis for the project, with the objective of making grating-based refractive index sensing suitable for commercial use.
Source: <http://www.laboratorytalk.com/news/stz/stz103.html>
4. *October 6, The Chronicle-Telegram* – (Ohio) **Chemicals at U.S. Steel overwhelm worker.** Pent-up vapors escaped out of a U.S. Steel storage building Friday afternoon, overwhelming a worker and sparking a nearly six-hour hazmat investigation. Because temperatures dipped into the 40s overnight and climbed into the 70s in the afternoon, water purification chemicals stored in the building vaporized and built up a cloud inside, the Lorain Fire Captain said. None of the chemicals by themselves was extremely hazardous, but when the gases mixed, they became dangerous. The Nalco Supply employee involved was taken to Community Regional Medical Center to be checked for delayed signs of chemical contamination. Hazmat personnel went through extensive decontamination procedures to make sure none of the chemicals left the property.
Source:

http://www.chroniclet.com/2008/10/05/chemicals-at-us-steel-overwhelm-worker_122/

5. *October 5, Baltimore Sun* – (Maryland) **4 hurt, chemical spilled in I-95 crash in Harford.** Four people were injured early Sunday morning when a tractor-trailer hit another vehicle, overturned and spilled acetone on southbound Interstate 95 in Harford County, prompting road closures during the cleanup and investigation, according to Maryland State Police. Firefighters contained the spill, and Maryland Department of the Environment personnel determined that about 5 gallons had leaked. I-95 was closed in both directions until about 10:45 a.m. for the cleanup and investigation, according to police.

Source:

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/local/harford/bal-md.ha.hazmat05oct05,0,1263876.story>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

6. *October 4, Rutland Herald* – (Vermont) **Yankee security contract up in air.** Contract talks between unionized security workers at the Vermont Yankee nuclear plant and Wackenhut Nuclear Services Corp., their employer, broke off Thursday, a full month before the contract expires. Local 16 of the United Government Security Officers of America issued a press release Thursday afternoon, announcing that “no progress” had been made in contract talks after two days of negotiations. In a brief press release announcing the impasse, a union representative noted that no further talks were scheduled. The contract expires on November 5. However, the corporate counsel for Wackenhut and director of labor relations said that talks in the past two days had been “very productive.” He said the union only covered Wackenhut workers at Vermont Yankee and no other nuclear plants. A spokesman for Entergy Nuclear Vermont Yankee said Entergy was not involved in the contract talks, saying they were between Wackenhut and the union.

Source:

<http://www.rutlandherald.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20081004/NEWS02/810040363/1003/NEWS02>

7. *October 3, Greenville Sun* – (Tennessee) **Concerns voiced about nuclear fuels’ proposals.** Several local residents on Thursday voiced their concerns about a proposed new highly enriched uranium processing line at the Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc. (NFS) plant in Erwin, Tennessee. The opportunity came at the close of a meeting hosted by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to discuss NFS’ performance during the first half of 2008. The NRC’s Region II director of fuel facility inspections said the NRC had found that NFS had operated its Erwin plant safely between January and July. He also said an NRC review of NFS operations had found no significant problems with any of the five operational areas the NRC monitors. Most of the questions focused on NFS’s efforts to obtain an amendment from the NRC to its special nuclear materials license that will allow NFS to begin converting some 1,500 pounds of highly enriched uranium hexafluoride gas into a form suitable for conversion to commercial nuclear

power plant fuel. NRC officials downplayed the possibility of an explosion and said the quantities of uranium hexafluoride proposed to be processed in the new NFS commercial development facility are so small as to not pose a serious hazard.

Source: <http://www.greenevillesun.com/story/298321>

8. *October 3, Saginaw News* – (Michigan) **Radioactive cleanup company ready to roll.** Cleanup of a former radioactive dump site in Bethany Township, Michigan, may finally take place by the end of the year. Members of the Pine River Superfund Citizens Task Force heard a presentation from the vice president of sales for Energy Solutions, a nuclear services company, during a recent meeting. The firm could complete the project that began in 2004 “in three months tops,” he said. The 2.2-acre parcel was used as a dumping ground for radioactive materials by Michigan Chemical Co. Tests have revealed low levels of thorium and uranium are buried on the property that is known as the “Breckenridge Site.”

Source: <http://www.mlive.com/news/saginawnews/index.ssf?/base/news-27/122304362788370.xml&coll=9>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Defense Industrial Base Sector

9. *October 6, Associated Press* – (National) **Fort Bragg holding anti-terrorism exercise.** Officials at Fort Bragg in North Carolina plan to kick off a weeklong anti-terrorism exercise that will include a simulated shooter and chemical and improvised explosive device attacks. The Army exercise is called Orbit Comet and will run Monday through Friday. A statement said the exercise is held annually to test the post’s command and communication systems, its protective measures, and its ability to respond to an emergency. Part of the exercise will involve announcements on the public address system. Officials said all role players will be clearly identified.
Source: <http://www.wbtv.com/Global/story.asp?S=9128218>
10. *October 6, Army Times* – (National) **Army eyes civilian gadgets for military use.** The proliferation of trendy mobile communication devices in the civilian sector has prompted the Army to take a close look at them for a variety of possible military applications. Service officials estimate there are 80,000 mobile devices operating in Army cyberspace for official business — about half of them purchased and owned by the government. The remaining 40,000 are owned by soldiers and Army civilian employees who use them for a combination of official and personal communications, on installations, and in remote combat zones. One Army vendor, iRobot, has seen an application developed for the iPhone to control its PackBot, a lightweight tactical mobile robot capable of performing such dangerous battlefield missions as explosive ordnance reconnaissance, identification, and disposal.
Source: http://www.armytimes.com/news/2008/10/army_mobiledevices_100408w/
11. *October 3, Reuters* – (National) **U.S. Air Force to inspect, repair aged A-10 aircraft.** The U.S. Air Force on Friday said it would immediately inspect and repair about 130 A-10 attack aircraft due to fatigue-related cracks in their wings, saying the move illustrated

the advancing age of its fleet. The aircraft in question were built with “thin-skin” wings in the 1970s by the now-defunct Fairchild Industries, and comprise just under a third of the Air Force’s 400 remaining A-10s or Warthogs. Later models were built with thicker skins. “The inspections are a necessary step in addressing the risk associated with A-10 wing cracking - specifically with thin-skin wings,” the Air Force said in a statement. An Air Force spokesman said the action did not constitute a fleetwide grounding of the single-seat, twin-engine A-10s, and would have no impact on any combat operations. The Air Force said wing cracks had appeared in A-10s assigned to the Air Force’s Air Combat Command in the Pacific, the Air National Guard, the reserves, and Air Force Materiel Command. The service said its first priority would be those A-10 aircraft based in U.S. Central Command, which is in charge of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Those aircraft have been used extensively to provide close air support for U.S. troops on the ground, and to drop precision-guided weapons from high above.

Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN0336402120081003>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Banking and Finance Sector

12. *October 6, Reuters* – (National) **BofA in \$8.6 billion settlement over Countrywide loans.** Bank of America will settle claims brought by U.S. state attorneys-general regarding certain risky loans originated by Countrywide Financial Corp, it said on Monday, in a deal that could be worth more than \$8.6 billion. The deal, covering nearly 400,000 borrowers, applies to people who financed their homes with subprime loans or pay-option adjustable-rate mortgages serviced by Countrywide that originated before Dec 31, 2007. The options of the program include trying to refinance borrowers into government-backed loans under the federal Hope for Homeowners program and lowering interest rates. Under the program, for eligible Countrywide-serviced customers who occupy the home as their primary residence, borrowers will not be charged loan modification fees and prepayment penalties for subprime and pay option ARM loans will be waived, the bank said.

Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/ousiv/idUSTRE4953T620081006?pageNumber=1&virtualBrandChannel=0>

13. *October 6, CNN Money* – (National) **Fed pumps billions more into banks.** The Federal Reserve announced Monday it will double to \$300 billion the amount of money it will make available to the nation’s banks in return for a wide range of damaged collateral. The amount available to banks is set to rise to \$600 billion. In addition, the Federal Reserve signaled it could increase the amount available through those loans to \$900 billion by the end of the year.

Source: http://money.cnn.com/2008/10/06/news/economy/fed_loans/index.htm

14. *October 6, Washington Post* – (National) **Data breaches expose about 30M records in 2008.** U.S. corporations, governments, and universities reported a record 516 consumer

data breaches in the first nine months of this year, incidents prompted chiefly by hackers and employee theft. About 80 percent of the breaches involved digital records, while the remainder stemmed from the loss, theft or exposure of paper-based records. Some 30 million records on consumers have been exposed so far this year but there is currently no federal requirement for organizations that experience a data breach or loss to acknowledge precisely how many consumers nationwide may have been affected. More than 36 percent of the breaches so far this year have been at U.S. businesses, while educational institutions were the second most frequent source of incidents (21 percent).

Source:

http://voices.washingtonpost.com/securityfix/2008/10/516_data_breaches_in_2008_exp_o.html?nav=rss_blog

15. *October 6, Computerworld* – (California) **Schwarzanegger again nixes data breach bill.** For the second time in 12 months, the governor of California last week vetoed legislation that would have required retailers and other businesses operating in the state to take a series of steps to protect credit and debit card data. The Consumer Data Protection Act, or AB 1656, would also have required retailers to disclose more details about data breaches to the people affected by them. The California State Assembly and Senate overwhelmingly approved the measure last month. Financial institutions contend that retailers should do more to protect cardholder data and should cover card replacement costs if their systems are breached. The Governor explained that he vetoed the bill because it attempted “to legislate in an area where the marketplace has already assigned responsibilities and liabilities that provide for the protection of consumers.”

Source:

<http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=327601>

16. *October 6, Haaretz* – (International) **Israeli hacker said behind global ring that stole millions.** The United States will ask Canada to extradite an Israeli computer hacker known as the “Analyzer” so that he can be indicted as one of the masterminds of a worldwide ring of hackers that allegedly stole millions of dollars. Prosecutors say that the ring hacked into financial institutions in Russia, Turkey, Holland, Sweden, Germany and other countries. Ten years ago, he became famous for having hacked into the Pentagon’s computers. Then, last month, he was arrested in Canada on suspicion of being involved in a high-tech theft from a local bank. Three weeks later, a court decided to release him on \$30,000 bail, but last week, before he had actually left prison, that decision was superseded by a new arrest order issued in connection with the U.S. extradition request.

Source: <http://www.haaretz.com/hasen/spages/1026626.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Transportation Sector

Nothing to report

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Agriculture and Food Sector

17. *October 4, Associated Press* – (National) **Salmonella sickens people in 12 states.** The government is urging consumers to thoroughly cook frozen chicken dinners after 32 people in 12 states were sickened with salmonella poisoning. The health warning by the U.S. Department of Agriculture cited frozen dishes in which the chicken is raw, but breaded or pre-browned, giving the appearance of being cooked. USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service issued the warning Friday after Minnesota health officials found a link between the chicken dinners with salmonella illnesses reported in Minnesota and 11 other states. It did not name the states in its release.

Source: <http://www.topix.net/content/ap/2008/10/salmonella-sickens-people-in-12-states>

18. *October 4, Poughkeepsie Journal* – (National) **Organic Farming gets federal push.** The new farm bill could help feed America's appetite for organic food by enticing more farmers to switch from conventional agriculture. The legislation, which passed this year, offers farmers as much as \$20,000 a year to cover the cost of converting their farms to organic agriculture. The payments would come through the Agriculture Department's Environmental Quality Incentives Program, which offsets the cost of measures that prevent pollution and conserve water and soil. Farms lose money while moving to organic agriculture. Crop yields drop, and growers can't sell their crops as organic - and get organic prices for them - for three years.

Source:

<http://www.poughkeepsiejournal.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2008810040319>

19. *October 3, Brownfield Network* – (International) **USDA relists a number of Mexican meat and poultry plants.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food Safety and Inspection Service have cleared nine Mexican poultry and meat processing plants for export to the U.S. According to Dow Jones Newswires, USDA says that the plants had made enough changes to record keeping, sanitation, and oversight to resume sending their products to the United States. In late August, audits of a number of Mexican meat and poultry plants turned up enough irregularities that Mexico voluntarily shut down all meat and poultry exports to the U.S. There are still 45 Mexican plants that have to clear re-inspection by the Food Safety and Inspection Service.

Source:

<http://www.brownfieldnetwork.com/gestalt/go.cfm?objectid=C3EF7B43-DBED-6177-7AD3BD5107455ADA>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Water Sector

20. *October 5, Associated Press* – (National) **Environmental damage widespread after Ike.** At least a half million gallons of crude oil was spilled into the Gulf of Mexico and the marshes, bayous, and bays of Louisiana and Texas, according to an analysis of federal data by the Associated Press. In the days before and after Hurricane Ike, companies and residents reported at least 448 releases of oil, gasoline, and dozens of other substances into the air and water and onto the ground in Louisiana and Texas. The hardest hit places were industrial centers near Houston and Port Arthur, Texas, as well as oil production facilities off Louisiana's coast. The Coast Guard, with the Environmental Protection Agency and state agencies, has responded to more than 3,000 pollution reports associated with the storm and its surge along the upper Texas coast. Most callers complain about abandoned propane tanks, paint cans, and other hazardous materials containers turning up in marshes, backyards, and other places. No major oil spills or hazardous materials releases have been identified, but nearly 1,500 sites still need to be cleaned up. Power outages also caused sewage pipes to stop flowing. Elsewhere, the storm's surge dredged up smelly and oxygen-deprived marsh mud, which killed fish and caused residents to complain of nausea and headaches from the odor. State and federal officials have collected thousands of abandoned drums, paint cans, and other containers. The Associated Press' analysis found that, by far, the most common contaminant left in Ike's wake was crude oil. In the week of reports analyzed, enough crude oil was spilled nearly to fill an Olympic-sized swimming pool, and more could be released, officials said, as platforms and pipelines were turned back on. Air contaminants were the second-most common release, mostly from the chemical plants and refineries along the coast.
Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/27034445/>
21. *October 5, Pueblo Chieftain* – (Colorado) **Quest for water.** Last month, the Pueblo Board of Water Works reaffirmed the need for more water acquisition even as it was dusting itself off from a failed attempt last year to purchase a controlling interest in the Bessemer Ditch. A 100-year plan to provide water for a population of 300,000 by the next century is being developed. There also needs to be enough water to support new industry. The water board is looking at the purchase of some shares of Bessemer Ditch water, even though it might not mean a majority interest, along with other options. Because of uncertainty of the transmountain supply both from potential downstream demands on the Colorado River and climate change the water board began new long-range planning. The drought of 2002 also showed Pueblo's supply was not as reliable as once assumed and highlighted the need to obtain more water. The board recently approved a major expansion of water supply lines to a new industrial park on former CF&I land south of Pueblo. Vestas has since announced its plans to build a plant to make towers for wind turbines at the new site.
Source:
<http://www.chieftain.com/articles/2008/10/05/news/local/doc48e8574c717ac927013853.txt>
22. *October 4, Associated Press* – (National) **EPA won't limit toxic chemical in drinking water.** Federal regulators said Friday they do not plan to try to rid drinking water supplies of a toxic rocket fuel ingredient that has been found in 35 states. The

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will take public comment for 30 days before finalizing its decision not to regulate the contaminant, perchlorate, in drinking water. Particularly widespread in California and Texas, perchlorate has been found to interfere with thyroid function and pose developmental health risks, particularly for babies and fetuses. The decision on perchlorate has been pending for years as the Pentagon tussled with EPA over the issue. The Defense Department used perchlorate for decades in testing missiles and rockets, and most perchlorate contamination is the result of defense and aerospace activities, congressional investigators said last year. The Pentagon could face liability if EPA set a national drinking water standard that forced water agencies around the country to undertake costly clean-up efforts. States have already moved ahead with their own drinking water standards, with California setting a limit of 6 parts per billion and Massachusetts setting it at 2 parts per billion. EPA said in a press release Friday that it had determined that in more than 99 percent of public drinking water systems, perchlorate was not at levels of public health concern. Under the Safe Drinking Water Act, “the agency determined there is not a ‘meaningful opportunity for health risk reduction’ through a national drinking water regulation.”

Source: <http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5hkmR-wSU9LKmVT3Iduv0DS9XPTbAD93J8US80>

23. *October 3, Associated Press* – (National) **Bush signs Great Lakes compact.** The U.S. President signed a long-debated compact on Friday designed to prevent Great Lakes water from being sent to thirsty areas while requiring the region’s eight states to regulate their own water use. It was the final step in a nearly decade-long quest to strengthen legal protections against diverting water from the system of the five lakes, their connecting channels and the St. Lawrence River. They contain nearly 20 percent of the world’s fresh surface water and supply eight states and two Canadian provinces. “Together, we have taken a major step to protect the Great Lakes,” said the Wisconsin Governor, chairman of the Council of Great Lakes Governors. The deal was negotiated by the governors and ratified by legislatures in all eight states. Congress and Canadian provinces Ontario and Quebec approved it. The pact bans new diversions of water, with limited exceptions for communities near the basin boundary that meet rigorous requirements.

Source: <http://www.startribune.com/nation/30453799.html?elr=KArksUUUU>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Public Health and Healthcare Sector

24. *October 6, Nurse.com* – (California) **Los Angeles RNs ‘at the ready’ with pediatric disaster plan.** When a moderate earthquake rolled through Southern California earlier this year, nurses and other staff at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles knew how to react. While technicians did a damage assessment, nurses fanned out to check on children shaken by the late morning jolt and reassure them they were safe. The 5.4-magnitude earthquake in April was a timely opportunity to alert Los Angeles County hospitals and emergency personnel to prepare for disasters where Emergency Departments could be overwhelmed by a pediatric “surge.” The “surge” would require special staff expertise to meet the unique medical needs of children. In large-scale disasters, children are more

vulnerable than adults. Children also need more immediate intervention and specialized care for trauma, yet surveys show fewer than 25% of hospitals and public health agencies specifically address children's needs in emergency plans.

Source:

<http://include.nurse.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20081006/CA02/110060080>

25. *October 4, Mathaba News Network* – (International) **New suspect case of bird flu found in S. Korea.** A new suspected case of bird flu was found at a duck farm in South Korea, the South Korean Agriculture Ministry said Saturday. Routine tests showed that some ducks at a farm in Yesan, 134 km south of Seoul, have been infected with avian influenza, the Ministry said in a statement. The Ministry said detailed tests were underway to confirm whether the suspected outbreak of bird flu is a highly virulent strain of avian influenza. All ducks at the farm were culled in case of further spreading. Source: <http://mathaba.net/news/?x=608002>

26. *October 5, Associated Press* – (Indiana) **Flood-damaged Columbus hospital to reopen.** Columbus Regional Hospital plans to resume surgical and inpatient services in late October, more than four months after the hospital was closed by flooding that caused more than \$200 million in damage to the complex. The hospital will reopen those units October 27, with that week as a transition period before being ready to handle a full volume of surgeries and patients by November 3. The June 7 flood that hit much of central and southern Indiana heavily damaged the hospital's first floor and basement, which was filled by floodwaters, and forced its evacuation and closure. The emergency department reopened August 1, but patients needing care that requires admission to a hospital have been sent to other hospitals.

Source:

<http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20081005/LOCAL/81005009>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Government Facilities Sector

Nothing to report

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Emergency Services Sector

27. *October 6, KSLA 12 Shreveport* – (Louisiana) **Local responders to receive training for gas well explosions.** Numerous two-hour training sessions will train first responders in the ArkLaTex how to respond to a gas well explosion. The training, which will take place throughout the week, is offered by the Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office in conjunction with Chesapeake Oil and Boots & Coots. A gas well emergency could include fire, explosion, or even chemical spills. According to a news release from the sheriff's office, participants in the training will receive professional instruction from the two companies involved and learn who would be the first to be called and the first to arrive in this type of emergency.

Source: <http://www.ksla.com/Global/story.asp?S=9128357&nav=0RY5>

28. *October 5, Associated Press* – (Maine; New Hampshire) **Pease drill brings together NH, ME responders.** About two dozen emergency response agencies took part last weekend in a mock disaster at the Pease International Tradeport. Participants practiced how they would respond if wild turkeys were sucked into the engines of a military plane, causing it to crash on takeoff into a parked commercial jet. The agencies involved included fire departments, law enforcement, government, military, and emergency medical personnel from Rockingham and Strafford Counties and York County, Maine. Officials say emergency responders throughout the Seacoast region already have strong relationships but the drill enhanced communication and cohesiveness between agencies.

Source:

http://www.boston.com/news/local/new_hampshire/articles/2008/10/05/pease_drill_brings_together_nh_me_responders/

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Information Technology

29. *October 6, Computerworld* – (National) **Computer failure hobbles NASA's Hubble Telescope.** A computer failure onboard the orbiting Hubble Space Telescope has forced NASA to postpone this month's space shuttle Atlantis mission, which was set to do scheduled repairs on the observatory. The shuttle program manager at the Johnson Space Center in Houston, said the flight will likely be rescheduled for next February or April, giving NASA time to prepare a replacement computer for delivery. NASA scientists announced last week that a data formatter and control unit had "totally failed" on September 27. The Science Data Formatter is designed to take information from five onboard instruments, format it into packets, put a header on it, and send it to Earth at speeds of up to 1 Mbit/sec. A program executive for the Hubble Space Telescope said that the problematic computer has been online since the telescope was put into orbit by the space shuttle Discovery in 1990. The computer was designed by IBM in the 1970s and built by the former Fairchild Camera and Instrument Corp. in the 1980s.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=327612&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc_top

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: <http://www.us-cert.gov>.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Communications Sector

Nothing to report

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Commercial Facilities Sector

30. *October 5, Associated Press* – (Texas) **Police blow up backpack at Texas mosque.**

Police have blown up a suspicious backpack outside a Texas mosque and arrested a man who claimed it contained a bomb. An Austin police Lt. says a 46-year-old man threatened the North Austin Muslim Community Center on Sunday. Authorities X-rayed the backpack and found electronic parts inside. They destroyed it as a precaution. The man was arrested on charges of criminal trespassing and terroristic threat.

Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/27039512/>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

National Monuments & Icons Sector

31. *October 6, Associated Press* – (California) **Los Padres forest fire now 37 percent contained.**

Despite rain and increased humidity over the weekend, fire officials say they still will not have a wildfire burning in the Los Padres National Forest contained until the middle of the month. The blaze about 22 miles southwest of King City in Monterey County has consumed more than 12,000 acres — or about 19 square miles.

Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/breakingnews/ci_10649836

32. *October 6, Associated Press* – (Kentucky) **Fire in Daniel Boone National Forest contained.**

Authorities in central Kentucky say a fire that burned more than 150 acres in Daniel Boone National Forest has been contained. Because the terrain is too steep and rocky to dig a fire line around the fire, firefighters have gone to natural boundaries such as creeks, hiking trails, and the Red River and set fires. A Forest Fire management officer says these are designed to burn toward the core of the fire and create a fire break around it.

Source:

http://www.kypost.com/content/news/commonwealth/story.aspx?content_id=0195b357-7357-48f3-b776-aba5eb570dce

33. *October 3, San Antonio Express* – (Texas) **Debris from Hurricane Ike litters South Padre Island.**

Hundreds of miles south of Hurricane Ike's striking point, remnants of the deadly storm are littering the shores of the world's longest barrier island to the degree that the beaches resemble a dump. Plastic bags full of collected junk line the high tide mark, and the waves each day bring more. No one knows how much trash has washed up, but officials say they have never seen anything like it. One 4-mile stretch had produced enough to fill 2,970 industrial-size trash bags. Further south at Cameron County's South Padre Island beaches, Ike's residue quickly filled seven 30-cubic yard garbage bins. South Padre stretches 34 miles to the Port Mansfield jetty, after which the

island becomes the 65-mile Padre Island National Seashore.

Source: <http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/hurricane/ike/6039405.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Dams Sector

34. *October 6, Intelligencer* – (Pennsylvania) **Crumbling canal wall gets attention.** A 170-year-old stone wall was the latest piece of Delaware Canal history to fall victim to the ravages of floodwater. The already feeble wall, which sits between the Delaware River and canal in Durham, gave in to the weight of water rushing over the steep cliffs above River Road as rain pounded Upper Bucks the weekend of September 27. It is another loss for the 60-mile-long Delaware Canal State Park. A \$40 million project is under way to restore the flood-ravaged 19th century canal and towpath, which was once used to transport goods by barge between Philadelphia and Easton. The site has now become a treasured historical attraction. A Park manager says the stone wall's structural strength was in distress since Hurricane Ivan in 2004 and two subsequent floods hammered the area. Officials estimate the cost to rebuild at between \$250,000 and \$500,000. The damage is not covered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). FEMA only grants money for repairs related to a designated emergency disaster such as a major flood. The stone wall is 12 feet high, 4 feet thick and spans 200 feet.

Source: <http://www.phillyburbs.com/pb-dyn/news/113-10062008-1601328.html>

35. *October 5, Associated Press* – (Idaho) **Dworshak Dam wins 'potentially unsafe' rating.** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers officials say residents below Dworshak Dam on North central Idaho's Clearwater River have little to fear, despite the 36-year-old structure's recent rating as "unsafe or potentially unsafe." Water is squeezing through flex joints, known as water stops, on the front of the dam. In addition, many of the drains used to monitor water slipping beneath the foot of the dam are clogged and need to be cleaned so potentially dangerous uplift pressures can be checked. Still, the Dworshak operations manager says the dam's 51 concrete monoliths remain robust and pose no danger of catastrophic failure, an event that would have dire consequences for residents living downstream. The manager says of the 400 megawatt dam, "It's as safe now as when it was built."

Source: <http://www.montanastation.com/Global/story.asp?S=9127523>

36. *October 5, Mercury* – (Pennsylvania) **Workers widening spillway at Popodickon Dam.** Improvements to a dam at the Boyertown Reservoir are about one-third complete, according to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Construction began in July to widen the Popodickon Dam's spillway. Such widening is necessary to handle heavy rainfall during a major storm. "A poorly maintained dam can start overflowing within a half hour," a DEP spokesman said. In 2001, DEP identified four Berks County dams that pose the greatest downstream problems in the event of a major storm. The Popodickon Dam — with a maximum capacity of 51 million gallons and a 13-acre surface area — was one of those identified. About 100 residents and eight businesses reside downstream from this dam in Earl

Township. The Boyertown water authority owns this local reservoir. The borough will use approximately \$500,000 it borrowed several years ago, in addition to other capital construction dollars to pay for the \$644,500 upgrade. This reservoir is one of three drinking water sources for the Boyertown area. Pennsylvania revised dam safety regulations after a deadly breach in 1977. 12 inches of rain fell over the course of 10 hours, causing six dams to breach. Eighty-five people died as a result. Afterwards, the National Weather Service released updated precipitation estimates to assist in devising new dam standards. DEP listed three other Berks County dams in 2001 that pose downstream problems: Antietam Lake, owned by the Reading Water Authority; Furnace Creek in Heidelberg Township; and Trout Run in Earl Township.

Source:

http://www.pottstownmercury.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=20151638&BRD=1674&PA G=461&dept_id=18041&rft=6

37. *October 5, Free Press* – (Minnesota) **Rapidan Dam threat rating raised.** Federal regulators have decided the consequences of a failure of the Rapidan Dam are worse than previously thought, and Blue Earth County will pay for additional studies. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, or FERC, has raised the hazard potential classification of the dam from “low” to “significant.” The classification does not reflect the condition of the county-owned dam, only what would happen were it to fail. If the dam breaks, all the farm chemicals — fertilizer, pesticides and herbicides — that have accumulated over the decades would flow downstream and pose an ecological hazard, FERC said. Eleven million cubic yards of sediment has accumulated behind the dam since it was built in 1910. The “significant” rating means that failure of the dam could cause economic or environmental damage but wouldn’t pose a risk to human life. The regulatory change necessitates a pair of studies; one will review the technical aspects of the dam and the risk of its failure and another to update an emergency plan in case of failure. The cost of both studies is estimated to total \$60,000, with the county paying half and dam operator North American Hydro paying half. The county has not updated its emergency plan for the dam since 1989, and the other report will help consolidate other studies done over the years, he said. The new regulations come in the midst of a multi-year study by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that will give the County Board information to help them make a long-term decision about the dam’s future.

Source: http://www.mankatofreepress.com/local/local_story_279003142.html

[\[Return to top\]](#)

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Reports – The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a daily [Monday through Friday] summary of open-source published information concerning significant critical infrastructure issues. The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is archived for ten days on the Department of Homeland Security Website: <http://www.dhs.gov/iaipdailyreport>

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

Content and Suggestions:	Send mail to NICCRReports@dhs.gov or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at (202) 312-3421
Subscribe to the Distribution List:	Visit the DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report and follow instructions to Get e-mail updates when this information changes .
Removal from Distribution List:	Send mail to NICCRReports@dhs.gov or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at (202) 312-3421 for more information.

Contact DHS

To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at nicc@dhs.gov or (202) 282-9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

Department of Homeland Security Disclaimer

The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a non-commercial publication intended to educate and inform personnel engaged in infrastructure protection. Further reproduction or redistribution is subject to original copyright restrictions. DHS provides no warranty of ownership of the copyright, or accuracy with respect to the original source material.